



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

August - 2015 Volume 15, Issue 8

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Susan Mosier, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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Save the Date for Kansas Evidenced-Based Public Health Course - November 17-18

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



Applied use of evidence-based interventions at the state and local levels is critical to achieving successful public health outcomes, a skilled and adaptable workforce, and more efficient and effective use of resources. This training is offered by the Bureau of Health Promotion at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in collaboration with the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Adapted from the Prevention Research Center in St. Louis' highly regarded Evidence-Based

Public Health Course, the Kansas course features state specific data, insight from successful Kansas initiatives and guidance from instructors who practice public health in Kansas. As state and local health departments prepare for public health accreditation, the topics, techniques and tools provided through this course will enhance current understanding of principles of health assessment, improvement planning, and evaluation. Don't miss this unique training opportunity.

Course Themes:

- Selecting Evidence-Based Interventions
- Action Plans for Results
- Quantitative Evaluation
- Using Qualitative Data
- Prioritizing Program & Policy Options
- Economics of Prevention

Course prerequisites: Participants will be expected to attend a series of six pre-recorded webinars prior to the in-person course in Topeka. Each webinar is 30 to 45 minutes in duration.

Course registration and details about webinar recordings will be made available in September. Continuing education will be offered. To receive updates about course registration, please send your contact information to lvarner@kdheks.gov.

3rd Quarter Regional Public Health Meetings Scheduled

*by Teri Caudle, Public Health Specialist, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



Don't miss the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings aimed to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. These meetings are designed for the local LHD administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Registration is available on [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID# 1058162.

The agenda includes the following: Kansas Health Matters: Features, Uses, and Presenting Data to Stakeholders, Greg Crawford, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, (KDHE) and Sarah Hartsig, Kansas Health Foundation; Refugee Program, Cyndi Treaster, KDHE; Tiny K Alliance, KS Infant-Toddler Services-Part C, Local Program Administrators.

The dates and locations are:

- SE Region, Chanute – July 30
- SC Region, Hutchinson – August 5
- NW Region, Oakley – August 20
- SW Region, Garden City – August 21
- NC Region, Beloit – September 2
- NE Region, Topeka – September 8

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov.

Change the Tune

by Oral Health Kansas



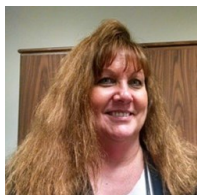
We all remember the 1971 Coca Cola ad where singers are on a hillside, expressing their wish to "buy the world a coke". Now it's time to change the tune. [The Center for Science in the Public Interest](#) reworked the ad, with people who have real soda related health problems such as diabetes, tooth decay and weight gain. Now, "I'd like to buy the world a drink that doesn't cause disease" is one of the new lyrics.

"Soda is just one of several contributors to diet-related disease, but it's a major one," said Dr. Jeffrey Gerber, a Denver-area physician who appeared in the film. "As a physician who asks all of my patients about the foods and drinks they choose, I see the connection between soda consumption and chronic conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and obesity every day of the week. It's hard to ask patients to practice moderation when all of the advertising, marketing, and overall ubiquity of soda rewires people to overconsume sugary drinks."

[Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health, 2000](#), reports the sugars and acids in sodas promotes tooth decay. The new video can be viewed [here](#).

Haug Named Office of Vital Statistics Director

by the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE



The Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics is pleased to announce the appointment of Kay Haug as the new Director of the Office of Vital Statistics (OVS) and Assistant State Registrar. Kay has most recently worked at the Kansas Department of Revenue in the Motor Vehicles Division. In addition, she has worked for the Department of Labor Unemployment Insurance Division and the Verizon Wireless Call Center in Manhattan. Kay brings to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment considerable experience that will help OVS meet its responsibilities in assuring excellent customer service, fraud prevention and accurate, timely vital event statistics. Welcome Kay!

Online Resources for Support Groups

by Angela Gaughan, Center for Community Support and Research, Wichita State University



The online database www.SupportGroupsInKansas.org contains a list of support groups for most counties in Kansas. Support groups organize themselves around a wide variety of topics. Most groups listed are free. Topics include medical conditions, abuse, disabilities, diabetes, caregiving, addiction, mental health, parenting and grief and many other topics. There are 50 categories listed in the database. Groups can also be found

through a keyword search.

In addition to contact information for local groups, the database contains hundreds of national support resources. Also, linked to the database is a support group Tool Box listing articles and online resources to strengthen and create support groups.

If your agency offers public support groups, please see if the information is listed. We are always looking for groups to add to the database. The database is maintained by the Center for Community Support and Research at Wichita State University. For assistance, call toll-free in Kansas 800-445-0116 or 316-978-5496 or email Angela at SupportGroups@wichita.edu.

Shirley Retiring From State Service

*by Mindee Reece, Administrator, Division of Public Health
Director, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



Jane Shirley, Director for the Local Public Health and Population Health Programs at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has accepted a wonderful career opportunity as the Disease Wellness Nurse/Employer Group Clinical Coordinator with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas. She has been a tremendous asset to the Kansas public health system at the local and state levels, and will leave big shoes to fill. Jane is actually beginning her new role as she winds down her current role at KDHE, and will retire from state service in mid-September. It's only through fate that retirement and a new job coincided, as in her perspective she's just moving on to a different job. Jane's last day in the office will be August 31. Please join me in thanking Jane for all she's done for the bureau and agency, and congratulating her on this exciting new career adventure.

Why Public Health Matters - Upcoming Regional Workshops

Dennis Kriesel, Kansas Association of Counties



One of the core functions of government is the operation and preservation of a public health system. In Kansas, significant responsibility in providing this service rests at the county level. As part of its significant efforts to support the public health system, the Kansas Health Foundation has provided funding for several regional workshops. The topic chosen, Why Public Health Matters: Disease Surveillance, is both timely (as shown by the recent national outbreak of measles and the earlier concern about a potential Ebola pandemic) and mandatory (there are statutory requirements on county governments to provide for disease surveillance).

Four workshops will be held around the state. Their purpose is to bring together county commissioners, local health department administrators and other stakeholders to outline a course of action that will contribute to an efficient and effective public health system in the counties. Registration is required, but there is no cost to attend and dinner will be provided. Click the logo for the registration link.

Why Public Health Matters Workshops Dates, Locations and How to Register:

All workshops start at 3:00 pm and end at 7:00 pm.

August 19, Emporia State University - Memorial Union, Emporia, [Click Here to Register](#)

September 2, Clarion Hotel, Garden City, [Click Here to Register](#)

September 3, Ramada, Hutchinson, [Click Here to Register](#)

September 9, Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan, [Click Here to Register](#)

ACCREDITATION CORNER

Academic Health Department Mentorship Program Set to Launch



As the summer kicks off, the [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#) (Council on Linkages) is preparing to launch its newest activity - an [Academic Health Department \(AHD\) Mentorship Program](#). Developed within the existing AHD Learning Community, the AHD Mentorship Program aims to foster the development, maintenance, and expansion of AHDs by creating ongoing mentoring relationships between individuals involved in AHD efforts. [Find opportunities to get involved and volunteer for the program.](#)

Funding Opportunities

Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Community College Grant Initiative - Deadline August 6



The Legacy Foundation is pleased to let you know that grants of up to \$5,000 per year are still available to public community colleges across the country to support efforts to advocate for, adopt, and implement a 100 percent smoke-free or 100 percent tobacco-free policy. The deadline for applications is August 6, 5:00 p.m.

- Initial grants are for one year.
- Upon invitation, awardees may apply for an additional year of funding at \$5,000.
- Awardees will receive technical assistance from Legacy throughout the grant period.

For more information including the grant guidelines, frequently asked questions, and a link to the online application, please click the logo.

Kansas Team Nutrition Sub-Grants - Deadline August 31



The following applications for SY 2015-16 are being accepted until August 31 in order to help create healthier school environments:

Serving Up MyPlate and Discover MyPlate Standards Based Nutrition Education Curriculum applications are being accepted for this standards based USDA health education curriculum which assists elementary teachers integrate nutrition education into Math, Science, English, Language Arts and Health. In addition to classroom materials sub-grant funds of \$5 per student are available to complete accompanying cooking/tasting activities.

Apply for a 8 to 12 week Power Panther Professionals customizable staff wellness program designed for school personnel. Sub-grant funding in the amount of \$100 per participating school or child care center is available.

Visit www.kansasteamnurition.org for a grant application and to receive additional information. Questions? Contact Jill Ladd at jladd@ksde.org or 785-296-2276.

Community Dental Health Grants Available - Deadline August 31



Community-based oral health programs in Kansas are encouraged to apply for grants up to \$150,000 for programs designed to improve oral health. Special consideration will be given to applicants whose programs focus on improving the oral health of low-income children and senior citizens; however, all grant submissions will be considered.

Community Dental Health Grants will be provided for new initiatives, new components of existing programs, start-up funding or one-time events that will include one or more of the following grant criteria:

- Prevention and education
- Significant and/or large impact
- Sustainable, innovative solutions

Applicants must submit a proposal by August 31 to be considered for the 2015 grant cycle. The [Grant Application](#) and [Grant Guidelines](#) are available on the Delta Dental website.

Kansas Health Foundation's Recognition Grants - Deadline September 15



Applications for the fall 2015 cycle of the Kansas Health Foundation's Recognition Grant program are due by September 15. Recognition Grants expand the Foundation's support to a broad range of organizations throughout the state. The grants are targeted to organizations and agencies proposing meaningful and charitable projects that fit within the Foundation's mission of improving the health of all Kansans. In addition to supporting projects, the Foundation also seeks to support initiatives that focus on promoting policy, systems and environmental (PSE) transformations that support health. To learn more, visit the official [Recognition Grant home page](#) for complete information.

Training and Conference Announcements

EDW Provider Trainings - August 13

by the Bureau of Health Promotion

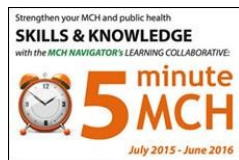


The Early Detection Works (EDW) program provides life-saving breast and cervical cancer services to the un/underserved women of Kansas. An EDW provider overview training webinar will be held on Thursday, August 13 from noon to 1 p.m. Click on the Logo to register.

In-person trainings for the EDW payment submission process are being held across the state this year and next. Many northeast Kansas EDW providers have received the payment submission training and attendee evaluations have been positive regarding the efficiency of the training, the ease of use of the Catalyst data system and the helpfulness of the provider handbook. Southeast providers are scheduled to receive the second round of trainings. Please contact your EDW regional nurse contact information at kdheks.gov/edw for a list of trainings coming to your region.

Announcing the MCH Navigator's 5 - Minute MCH

from the MCH Navigator website



Busy Maternal Child Health (MCH) professionals recognize the value of time, and the importance of receiving quality, tailored information and resources quickly. With that in mind, Georgetown University has designed a new program to improve your knowledge and skills of the 12 MCH Leadership Competencies. The MCH Navigator is conducting a monthly series from July 2015 - June 2016, that explores each competency, provides learning opportunities and implementation strategies, and culminates in an interactive learning session with an expert from the field. The easy-to-follow weekly format is designed to increase your knowledge and skills through 5-minute intensive learning sessions emailed to you each week and available through this web portal. At the close of the webinar you will receive a certificate of completion for your focused work throughout the month. See if you can complete all 12 and receive a special MCH Navigator Work Kit. [Click here](#) to learn more and register for the monthly MCH series.

Online Back to School Communications Toolkit Now Available

by Marley Sugar, Midwest Dairy Council



August is here, which means kids are getting ready to return to the classroom. In an effort to help raise awareness and share information about how dairy and breakfast can set kids up for a successful new school year, Midwest Dairy Council has created an online Back to School Communications Toolkit. The online toolkit resources are downloadable and include: talking points, a customizable news release and web/blog content, dairy Q&A, nutrition fact sheets, featured recipes, graphics and a social media calendar. This fall, spread the message that dairy makes sense for breakfast by using this back-to-school toolkit. Click the logo for more information.

14th Annual Obesity Conference - September 11—12

by the KU Medical Center Continuing Education & Physical Development



The 14th Annual Obesity Conference, September 11-12, in Wichita, will provide healthcare profession-

als and educators with the most current evidence-based information targeting nutrition, physical activity, and behavior changes. Obesity is directly associated with heart disease and stroke, high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer, gallbladder diseases and gallstones, osteoarthritis, sleep apnea, asthma, and other diseases. It is also associated with poor self-image, poorer performance in school and a variety of psychosocial impairments. Therefore, researchers, educators, government agencies, foundations, industry and others are promoting efforts to prevent and treat obesity at the individual and community levels.

This conference is approved to offer continuing education credit for physicians, advance practice nurses, nurses and dietitians. For complete details, click the logo. [Reserve your seat today.](#)

Countdown to October 1 - ICD 10 Compliance Date

from the KS-TRAIN Team



The Kansas Health Information Management Association (KHIMA) with support from the State Office of Rural Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, created in 2014 two International Classification of Diseases, Clinical Modification [ICD-10-CM](#) online coding courses to assist you in understanding the terms, the basic use of ICD-10 codes and the transition from ICD-9.

On October 1, the ICD-9 code sets used to report medical diagnoses and inpatient procedures will be replaced by ICD-10 code sets. The transition to ICD-10 is required for everyone covered by the [Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act](#) (HIPAA). Please note, the change to ICD-10 does not affect current procedural terminology (CPT) coding for outpatient procedures and physician services.

Introduction to the World of Coding, Course ID# 1048532 on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> introduces you to what coding is, answers some questions you may have about these impending changes and gives you some informative tips and tidbits about this classification system. This short online course is a building block for your beginning understanding of ICD-10-CM. ICD Coding Basics, Conventions and Guidelines, Course ID# 1048055 provides basic training needed to use the current ICD-9-CM code book to assign ICD Codes using coding conventions and guidelines. ICD codes are used in all types of health care settings. They are used to identify conditions treated, procedures performed, services provided, submit claims for payment, provide statistics for research and plan for the future of the health care provider.

ICD Coding Basics, Conventions and Guidelines is intended to be used as a refresher for Coding Basics and to assist you in preparing to attend an ICD-10 live training. Those who complete this training will:

- Understand the organization of the ICD-9-CM Code Book.
- Apply the definitions used in the code book.
- Follow the steps to currently assign ICD-9 codes.

Click the CMS logo to access resources to assist in meeting the October 1 countdown to ICD-10 compliance.

Announcement - New to Online Course Launched!

Fundamentals of Kansas Public Health Module 1: Overview of the Kansas System



The Fundamentals of Kansas Public Health: An Overview of the Kansas System Course, ID# 1056214 on [KS-TRAIN](#) was developed to provide a general understanding of the Kansas public health system for the current, new and future public health workforce. The [Kansas Public Health Workforce Development Coordinating Council \(Council\)](#) identified through its strategic planning process in 2014 and the Kansas Public Health Workforce Assessment in 2015 that there is a gap in the fundamental knowledge of the Public Health Core Functions, the 10 Essential Services and the relationship/linkages to the public health system in Kansas. Support for this course development project was funded by the Kansas Health Foundation Public Health Practice Program with expertise provided by Kansas public health professionals who developed the content.

KPHA Updates Orientation to Public Health in Kansas Manual and Course on KS-TRAIN

by Tanya Honderick, Past President, KPHA



The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Orientation to Public Health in Kansas Manual and course on KS-TRAIN have been updated. The manual was originally produced in 2008 by the Kansas Public Health Association through a grant from the Kansas Health Foundation (KHF). This update has been made possible through funding from the Kansas Health Foundation Public Health Practice Program (PHPP).

Content includes information about KPHA and its parent organization, the American Public Health Association (APHA); the mission and core functions of public health, including an overview of the determinants of health and the public health system, public health law, and funding; the history of public health and the Ten Greatest Public Health Achievements of the 20th Century; public health accountability, accreditation and education; public health technology and information resources in Kansas; and Kansas public health partners.

This manual was updated to serve as a companion document to the new online course Fundamentals of Public Health. You can find the manual and course at <http://ks.train.org>, KPHA: An Orientation to Public Health in Kansas, Course ID# 1017215.

CDC Updates Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials: What the Laboratorian Should Know for 2015

by AJ Wolfe, State Training Coordinator
Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories, KDHE



KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> has two free online trainings for compliance with the Federal Division 6.2 Materials Law, and to meet Kansas Environmental Health Laboratories shipping requirements. The first course from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has just been updated, [Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials: What the Laboratorian Should Know, - 2015](#), Course ID# 1058172. Here's what has changed with the course:

- The course was updated to correspond with regulatory changes.
- The course now includes an optional beginner's guide and job aids to assist those who may be less familiar with the pertinent regulations.

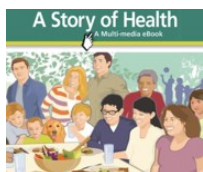
If you have not completed the 2014 course you may still do so until July 6. After this date, the course will be expired and you will not be able to complete it. If you have not completed a substantial portion of the 2014 course CDC recommends that it will be worth your time to move over to the 2015 version of the course.

In order to be certified (or recertified) to ship laboratory materials you must complete training on the hazardous materials regulations as well as some facility specific training. This on-line course uses a problem solving approach to provide training on infectious materials (Division 6.2 Materials) as specified in the Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations. The content includes some general security training as well as some guidance on facility specific training. Access to resource documents and a number of job aids will not only enhance your learning experience but also provide useful resources for your laboratory. This course is designed specifically for those who participate in any phase of shipping laboratory specimens within the United States.

You also need to complete the Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories course, course ID# 1050287. [KHEL: Preparing Clinical Specimens Related to Chemical or Biological Exposure Using Evidence Control Measures \(1050287\)](#), is an intermediate-level 45 minute training overview of regulations and procedures associated with evidentiary control measures taken when shipping clinical specimens to Kansas Department of Health and Environmental Laboratories after a known or unknown chemical exposure even has occurred. This course is offered to ensure all laboratory staff across Kansas receives the full training needed to fully support their responsibilities as sentinel laboratory staff members.

New CDC/ATSDR eBook Offers Free CE

from CDC TRAIN



A Story of Health, a collaborative project between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and partner organizations, is told through the lives of fictional characters and their families - Brett, a young boy with asthma; Amelia, a teenager with developmental disabilities; and Stephen, a toddler recently diagnosed with leukemia. Each story features the latest scientific research about disease origin and helpful facts about disease prevention. This case-based learning opportunity provides information you can use today to promote health and prevent disease. Add this to your summer reading list and earn free CE; each story is accredited separately.

The books and training are available through TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> or <http://cdc.train.org>.
[The Story of Health: Asthma - Brett's Story \(Web-based\) - WB2517](#), Course ID # 1055524
[The Story of Health: Learning/Developmental Disabilities - Amelia's Story - WB2551](#) # 1055791
[The Story of Health: Leukemia - Stephen's Story \(Web-Based\) - WB2550](#) # 1055789

HHS Launches New Interactive Training on Safe Opioid Use

from CDC TRAIN



The new, interactive training, Pathways to Safer Opioid Use, teaches healthcare providers how to implement opioid-related recommendations from Health and Human Services' [National Action Plan for Adverse Drug Event Prevention](#). The training allows users to assume the role of four characters - pharmacist, physician, patient, and nurse - and make decisions about preventing adverse drug events (ADEs) related to opioid use. Free CME is available to participants who complete the course. Pathways to Safer Opioid Use, Course ID# 1057950, on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> and CDC TRAIN at <http://cdc.train.org>.

SAR Training for Public Health and Health Care Partners

from the National SAR Initiative



The Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative, a collaborative effort by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement partners, has released the online training [SAR Training for Public Health and Health Care Partners](#). The training was developed to help public health and healthcare personnel recognize what kinds of suspicious behaviors are associated with pre-incident terrorism activities, understand how and where to report suspicious activity, and protect privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties when documenting information.

News and Resources



Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be August 25. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.



Take the HealthierUS School Challenge

The HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) is USDA's "Blue Ribbon" program for school nutrition and fitness as well as a key strategy for ensuring students have access to healthier food in school and are engaged in regular physical activity. We encourage all Kansas schools to take the HealthierUS School Challenge. For more information on the criteria and/or assistance applying, contact Emily Brinkman at embrinkman@ksde.org. Click on the logo to learn more about HealthierUS school Challenge.



Got a Question, Ask a Farmer

How do you answer questions about antibiotics, animal care and other on-farm topics? Join the [Ask the Farmers](#) Community on Facebook. This forum, which has more than 10,000 followers, allows farmers to answer consumers' questions about where their food comes from and how it is grown or raised.



Who is Public Health

Who do you think of when you think of public health? Maybe the epidemiologist, the clinic coordinator, the researcher, the program specialist who distributes mosquito nets in malaria-prone countries and pamphlets at health fairs. But what about the urban planner, the organic farmer, the hospital physician, the policymaker? Public health in 2015 is the block captain, the volunteer tutor and the environmental activist. Public health is anyone who helps make his or her community a healthier, safer, and more just place to live. Click the Medical press logo to read the complete article.



Kansas Oral Health Snapshot

In 2013, Oral Health Kansas launched a county-level oral health data book called the 2013 Kansas Oral Health Snapshot. This resource features data about the economic status, along with information about the oral health challenges and resources for each of our state's 105 counties. To open the complete book [click here](#).



Global Reference List of 100 Core Health Indicators - 2015

The Global Reference List of [100 Core Health Indicators](#) is a standard set of 100 indicators prioritized by the global community to provide concise information on the health situation and trends, including responses at national and global levels. It will be reviewed and updated periodically as global and country priorities evolve and measurement methods improve. This publication contains the 2015 version.



The Changing Public Health Landscape

Since 2008, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has periodically surveyed local health departments (LHDs) to assess the impact of the economic recession. For the last two years, NACCHO has expanded the survey to address more generally the forces that are affecting change in LHDs, including health reform and billing for services. This new, expanded survey is called the [Forces of Change](#) survey.

Workshop Summary Released - Collaboration between Health Care and Public Health



The National Academy of Medicine, formerly the Institute of Medicine (IOM), released its full-length report [Collaboration Between Health Care and Public Health: Workshop Summary](#) from the February 5, IOM Population Health Roundtable, Opportunities at the Interface of Health Care and Public Health. The roundtable focused on how collaboration can facilitate conversation and action to achieve more meaningful population health solutions.



Healthy Eating Plate & Healthy Eating Pyramid

[The Healthy Eating Plate](#)—a simple, visual meal-planning guide that addresses important deficiencies in the U.S. government's MyPlate icon—has now been translated into 14 new languages by its developers at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, giving it the potential to reach over half the world's population.

ReadyVax Mobile App Released



Emory University has released [ReadyVax](#), a free mobile app available through iTunes for Apple iOS devices that contains up-to-date information about vaccines and vaccination, including vaccine safety and immunization recommendations, descriptions of vaccine-preventable diseases, answers to frequently asked questions, links to resources, and vaccine-related breaking news updates. ReadyVax can be used by both health care providers and patients, and is customizable to suit user needs.

Travel Smart: Get Vaccinated



More and more Americans are travelling internationally each year. Today more than a third of Americans have a passport. It is important to remember that some types of international travel, especially to developing countries and rural areas, have higher health risks. These risks depend on a number of things including: where you are traveling; your activities while traveling; your current health status; your vaccination history. Click the CDC Features logo to learn more.

Women of all Ages More Likely to Have Serious Mental Health Problems Than Men



Women in every age group in the United States were more likely than men to have serious mental health problems, according to recently released federal health statistics. The report from the National Center for Health Statistics, part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, also found that more than one-fourth of people age 65 or older who are afflicted with these mental health problems have difficulty feeding, bathing and dressing themselves. Click the logo to learn more.

Parents' Denial Fuels Childhood Obesity Epidemic



Despite widespread publicity about the obesity epidemic, parents increasingly seem to be turning a blind eye as their children put on pounds. In a recent study in Childhood Obesity, more than three-quarters of parents of pre-school-age obese sons and nearly 70 percent of parents of obese daughters described their children as "about the right weight." The researchers also compared these 2012 survey results with those from a similar survey in 1994. Not only were the children in the recent survey significantly heavier, but the likelihood that parents could identify their child's weight accurately had declined about 30 percent. Click the New Your Times logo for the complete article.

Could a Computer Predict the Next Pandemic



In [a new study](#), researchers have used machine learning—teaching computers to recognize patterns in large data sets—to make accurate forecasts about which animals might harbor dangerous viruses, bacteria, and fungi. Better predictions could help experts improve how they prevent and respond to disease outbreaks. Click the Science logo to access the complete article.

CDC Promotes Healthy Swimming App



Getting ready to go swimming or working at the pool? Don't leave home without CDC's Healthy Swimming app. Help keep yourself and your family healthy and safe this summer swim season. If you are a pool inspector, operator, or lifeguard, the app provides easy access to the latest information needed to answer patron questions. Learn about the germs that we all bring into the places we swim, how they could make you and others sick, and how you can take a few easy and effective steps to help protect yourself and others. Click the image to access the App.

TravWell App Available from CDC



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's TravWell app helps you plan for safe and healthy international travel. Build a trip to get destination-specific vaccine recommendations, a checklist of what you need to do to prepare for travel, and a customizable healthy travel packing list. The app also lets you store travel documents, keep a record of your medications and vaccinations, and set reminders to get vaccine booster doses or take medicines while you're traveling. Click the TraveWell image to access the App.

August is National Immunization Awareness Month - Tools to Help You Raise Awareness

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) provides an opportunity to highlight the value of immunization across the lifespan. Activities focus on encouraging all people to protect their health by being immunized against infectious diseases.

The National Public Health Information Coalition has posted an Immunization Communications Toolkit to help raise awareness. Included in the kit are key messages, sample media materials, social media content and event ideas. Click the logo to access the resources from the National Public Health Information Coalition.



IMMUNIZATION
Communications Toolkit

Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

City-Cowley County Health Department

- [Administrator/Health Officer](#)
- [Public Health Emergency Response Coordinator](#)

Douglas County

- [Public Health Nurse](#)
- [Public Health Nutritionist \(PT\)](#)

Geary County

- [WIC Registered Dietitian](#)

Franklin County Health Department

- [Registered Nurse](#)
- [Registered Nurse \(PT\) \(20 Hrs. week\)](#)

Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center

- [Clinical Psychologist or LCSW](#)
- [Dental Assistant](#)
- [Licensed Practical Nurse](#)
- [Medical Assistant \(PT/FT\)](#)

Reno County Health Department

- [Environmental Health Tech](#)
- [Health Educator](#)
- [Health Promotion Supervisor](#)
- [Public Health Nurse Stand by \(PRN\)](#)

Riley County

- [Social Worker - Riley County Public Health Nurse](#)

Shawnee County Health Agency

- [Intermittent LPN](#)
- [RN \(Primary Care-Women's Health-Float\)](#)
- [RN MCH Outreach \(Health Agency\)](#)

Wyandotte County

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)

[Green Guide](#)

Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, e-mail bchs@kdheks.gov.

Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at

http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm

Send your public health news to

Debbie Nickels at dnickels@kdheks.gov.